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LETTER DATED 17 MAY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I should like to transmit to you herewith a note verbale from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iraq, No. 7/6/1/12/66380, dated 15 March 1993 and addressed to you, on the subject of the kidnapping by the authorities of the Kuwaiti regime of six Iraqi citizens, and the consequences of the kidnapping for some of those persons.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the attached note verbale from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Note verbale dated 15 May 1993 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations at New York, and has the honour to inform it that the authorities of the Kuwaiti regime have kidnapped six Iraqi citizens, including both Hussayn Difar and Hamudi Isa, residents of Shatrah in Dhi Qar Governorate. These two were found by a United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) patrol on 3 April 1993 in very poor health and suffering from wounds and bearing clear traces of physical torture. The above-mentioned two individuals stated that they were in a group of six persons when they were kidnapped and subjected to most repugnant forms of torture and inhuman practices. On 2 April 1993, four of them were released and left in the desert near Hafar al-Batin. The above-mentioned two individuals were able to continue walking until they were discovered by UNIKOM patrols. The corpses of the other two persons were found on the morning of 4 April 1993 in the desert. They were taken to the Norwegian United Nations medical unit at Umm Qasr. The Kuwaiti authorities are still detaining two other persons, Hasan and Hamud.

The barbaric forms of torture practised by the repressive authorities of the rules of Kuwait against Iraqi citizens, who are kidnapped from time to time, have exceeded all bounds. Furthermore, they are a violation of the principles contained in the 1949 Geneva Conventions. This matter makes it incumbent on the international Organization to assume its responsibilities fully and to work to obtain the release of all Iraqi and Arab detainees in Kuwait and to force the rulers of Kuwait to observe the 1949 Geneva Conventions and all the other relevant principles and provisions in this regard.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would be grateful to the Secretariat if it would have this note verbale circulated to the Member States as a document of the Security Council.